

THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART
ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

MAY 88

Please complete and return the following questionnaire for our reference file on Cleveland Artists.

FULL NAME: MARY SPAIN

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: 3/7/1934 RALEIGH N.C.

PRIMARY MEDIA OIL ON CANVAS

ART TRAINING - Schools, Scholarships, etc.:

NORTON SCHOOL, PALM BEACH, FLA.
SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY
CLEVELAND ART INSTITUTE

EXHIBITIONS IN WHICH YOUR WORK HAS BEEN SHOWN:

COLLECTIONS WHICH NOW INCLUDE YOUR WORK:

AWARDS:

PRESENT POSITION:

The artist died of cancer
4/3/83

We would appreciate any information regarding subsequent awards, purchases, exhibitions and scholarships.
Thank you for your cooperation.

MAY 82

THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART
ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Please complete and return the following questionnaire for our reference file on Cleveland Artists.

FULL NAME: Mary Spain

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: Raleigh N.C. 1934

PRIMARY MEDIA Painter - (Crossed lines) into Oil.

ART TRAINING - Schools, Scholarships, etc.:

BFA Syracuse University 1956

Some classes Art Institute Clar.

Before that adult classes at Norton School of art - West Palm Beach - which I loved very much!

EXHIBITIONS IN WHICH YOUR WORK HAS BEEN SHOWN:

Jack Gallery N.Y. City, Feb 1982 one person show
Carone Gallery Fort Lauderdale Fla Dec. 1981

COLLECTIONS WHICH NOW INCLUDE YOUR WORK:

Ft Lauderdale Museum of Fine Art
Ernst Berthme - Editor German Magazine Der Spiegel
Cleveland Museum of Art
Jewish Community Center
Joe Edelstein, Cleveland

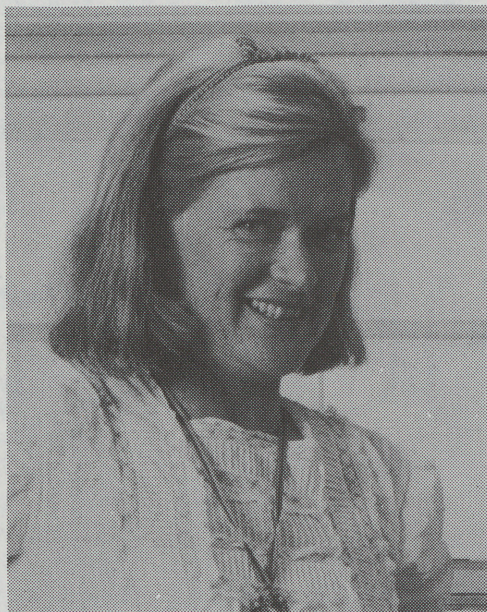
AWARDS:

1st prize 42 Annual Jewish Exhibition - Woodmere Art Gallery, Chestnut Hill Pa.
May Show mentions
Jewish Community Center purchase
Purchase prize Everson Museum of Art Syracuse N.Y.

PRESENT POSITION:

Still painting

We would appreciate any information regarding subsequent awards, purchases, exhibitions and scholarships.
Thank you for your cooperation.



Mary Spain

"Mary Spain is the sorcerer's child, and her inheritance of magic is awesome. . . . Quite simply, [her] works are wonderful. . . . Presenting her world carefully, and depicting it so brilliantly, Mary Spain offers challenge and refreshment, insight and amusement, a wacky kind of truth rarer than heart's ease."

David Parkinson, Jr.
Cleveland magazine

In her paintings and drawings, Mary Spain creates a world populated by ominous, doll-like beings in surreal surroundings. Her symbolism is intensely personal, but reveals the influence of American "primitive" painters, Joan Miro, Paul Klee, Marisol, Jungian archetypes and Freudian symbolism.

The "naive" images in Spain's paintings are deceptive. Beneath the plump, porcelainlike flesh, her characters have a cynical outlook that gives them additional depth. According to the artist, "Everyone says my paintings are whimsical. They aren't. Outside, my people look sort of cute, but inside they are full of wiles and mischief."

*These are
not my
comments!
MS.*

Spain was born in Raleigh, North Carolina in 1934. She received her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in painting from Syracuse University, and also studied at the Norton School of Art, West Palm Beach and Cleveland Institute of Art.

The artist has merited numerous awards for her paintings, including purchase prizes from the Everson Museum of Art, Syracuse, N.Y.; Jewish Community Center, Cleveland; and Baldwin-Wallace Center, Berea, Ohio. Spain has also received Special Mentions from the Cleveland Museum of Art and the Katherine Hipple Baker Prize, Chautauqua National Exhibition of American Art.

Spain's paintings and drawings have been exhibited in many one-person and group shows at prestigious galleries and museums throughout the country, including the Butler Institute of American Art, Youngstown, Ohio; Cleveland Museum of Art; Stedman Art Gallery, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J.; Canton Art Institute, Ohio; Bonfoey Gallery On-the-Square, Cleveland; Rodger LaPelle Gallery, Philadelphia; Shayne Gallery, Montreal; Gemini Gallery, Palm Beach, Fla.; Peter Flanagan Gallery, New York; Carone Gallery, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.; and Gallery One, Ann Arbor, Mich.

Among the museums which include Spain's works in their permanent collections are the Cleveland Museum of Art, John Carroll University and Jewish Community Center, Cleveland; Everson Museum of Art and Syracuse University, Syracuse, N.Y.; Fort Lauderdale Museum, Fla.; Canton Art Institute, Ohio; Lake Erie College, Painesville, Ohio; and Baldwin-Wallace College, Berea, Ohio.

Jack Gallery is pleased to present this exhibition of paintings and drawings by Mary Spain.

Jack Gallery
138 Prince Street
New York, New York 10012
212/966-4235

THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART
ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

APR 79

Please complete and return the following questionnaire for our reference file on Cleveland Artists.

FULL NAME: Mary Sparr

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: 3/7/34, Raleigh, NC.

PRIMARY MEDIA Oil Painting

ART TRAINING - Schools, Scholarships, etc.:

Pease Institute, Raleigh NC.

Norton Gallery School of Art, West Palm Beach, Florida

Syracuse University, B.F.A. Ptg + some graduate Study

EXHIBITIONS IN WHICH YOUR WORK HAS BEEN SHOWN:

Cleveland Museum Mary Sparr Show

Carone Gallery, 2 man Show, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

Dayton Institute of Art - all Ohio Shows

Canton Art Institute - One man Show

Cleveland Toronto Exchange

Lake Erie College - 2 man Show

John Carroll - 2 man Show

Gallery One, Dunn Arbon Mich.

COLLECTIONS WHICH NOW INCLUDE YOUR WORK:

Syracuse University, Syracuse NY.

Emerson Museum, Syracuse NY.

Baldwin Wallace College, Berea, Ohio

Lake Erie College Painesville, Ohio

John Carroll University, Cleveland Ohio

Canton Art Institute, Canton Ohio

Joseph M. Erdelac Collection, Cleve.

Jewish Community Center, Cleve

AWARDS:

Purchase award Emerson Museum

" " Baldwin Wallace, Graphics Award

May Show mentions, Cleve. Museum of Art

Purchase award Jewish Community Center

Chautauqua National Painting Show - small award

PRESENT POSITION:

Painting alone in paradise (my home studio)

We would appreciate any information regarding subsequent awards, purchases, exhibitions and scholarships.
Thank you for your cooperation.

THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART
ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

JUL 8 1977

Please complete and return the following questionnaire for our reference file on Cleveland Artists.

FULL NAME: Mary Spain (Mrs. Frederic R. Colie)

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: Raleigh, N.C. 1934

PRIMARY MEDIA

oil painting on canvas

ART TRAINING - Schools, Scholarships, etc.:

Peace Institute, Raleigh, N.C.

Norton Gallery and School of Art, West Palm Beach, Fla.

Syracuse University, Syracuse, N.Y. (BFA Painting)

Cleveland Institute of Art

Cuyahoga Community College

Lakeland Community College

EXHIBITIONS IN WHICH YOUR WORK HAS BEEN SHOWN:

Carone Gallery, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Peter Flannagan Gallery, N.Y. City

Lake Erie College

Gallery Gemini, Palm Beach, Florida

John Carroll University

Dayton Institute of Art . painting and graphics (all Ohio)

Nova Shows

Butler Museum of Art, Regional Sculpture show

COLLECTIONS WHICH NOW INCLUDE YOUR WORK:

Everson Museum, Syracuse, N.Y.

Lake Erie College

Baldwin Wallace College

John Carroll University

Syracuse University

AWARDS:

Cleveland Museum of Art, Special Juror's Mention 1969, Special Judges' Mention 1976 and 1977

Chautauqua Exhibition of American Art - Baker Memorial Award 1977

Willoughby Fine Arts Center . First Prize 1975

several other little awards here and there, not really worth recalling.

PRESENT POSITION:

just painting and making a little sculpture (for exercise)

We would appreciate any information regarding subsequent awards, purchases, exhibitions and scholarships.
Thank you for your cooperation.

THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART

MAY SHOW QUESTIONNAIRE

Dear

We are trying to build a biographical record of Cleveland Artists for reference. May we enlist your assistance with the following data?

FULL NAME: Mary Spain Colie *on entry blank* MEDIA: All painting media

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH:

Raleigh N.C. - March 7, 1934

ART TRAINING - Schools, Scholarships, etc;

Norton School of Art - West Palm Beach, Florida,
Syracuse University B.F.A.
Cleveland Institute of Art - drawing classes -

EXHIBITIONS IN WHICH YOUR WORK HAS BEEN SHOWN:

Solon Library, Jewish Community Center, Park Synagogue Art Festival,
Decorator's Showcase 72, Newman Religious art Show, Massillon Museum,
Meauga County American Cancer Society Benefit Show 72, Help for Retarded Children
Show 72, Cleveland Institute of Music, Kumar Greek Graphics,
Matthew Carone Gallery, Fort Lauderdale Fla, Cleveland Museum May Shows

COLLECTIONS WHICH NOW INCLUDE YOUR WORK:

Enerson (Syracuse, N.Y.) museum,
Baldern Wallace
Solon Library
Cleveland Art Institute

AWARDS:

PRESENT POSITION:

Painting

We would greatly appreciate it if you would inform us of subsequent awards, purchases, exhibitions and scholarships. Thank you for your cooperation.

L. Whitale
Director of the May Show

THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART
ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Please complete and return the following questionnaire for our reference file on Cleveland Artists.

FULL NAME: Mary Spain

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: March 7, 1934 Raleigh, N.C.

PRIMARY MEDIA Oil painting

ART TRAINING - Schools, Scholarships, etc.:

Peace Institute, Raleigh, N.C.
Norton Gallery and School of Art, West Palm Beach, Florida
Syracuse University, B.F.A. Painting plus some graduate study
Hiram College
Cleveland Institute of Art
Cuyahoga Community College (life drawing)
Lakeland Community College (sculpture class)

EXHIBITIONS IN WHICH YOUR WORK HAS BEEN SHOWN:

Carone Gallery, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. 2man show
Gallery One, Findlay, Ohio. One man show
Chautauqua National, Chautauqua, N.Y.
Baldwin Wallace print and drawing show
Gallery 35, Chagrin Falls, Ohio 2 man show
Lake Erie College, 2 man show
J.C.C. regional shows
May show

COLLECTIONS WHICH NOW INCLUDE YOUR WORK: All Ohio Painting and All Ohio Graphics, Dayton, and Butler Sculpture and Ceramics.

Syracuse University
Baldwin Wallace College
Everson Museum
Lake Erie College

AWARDS:

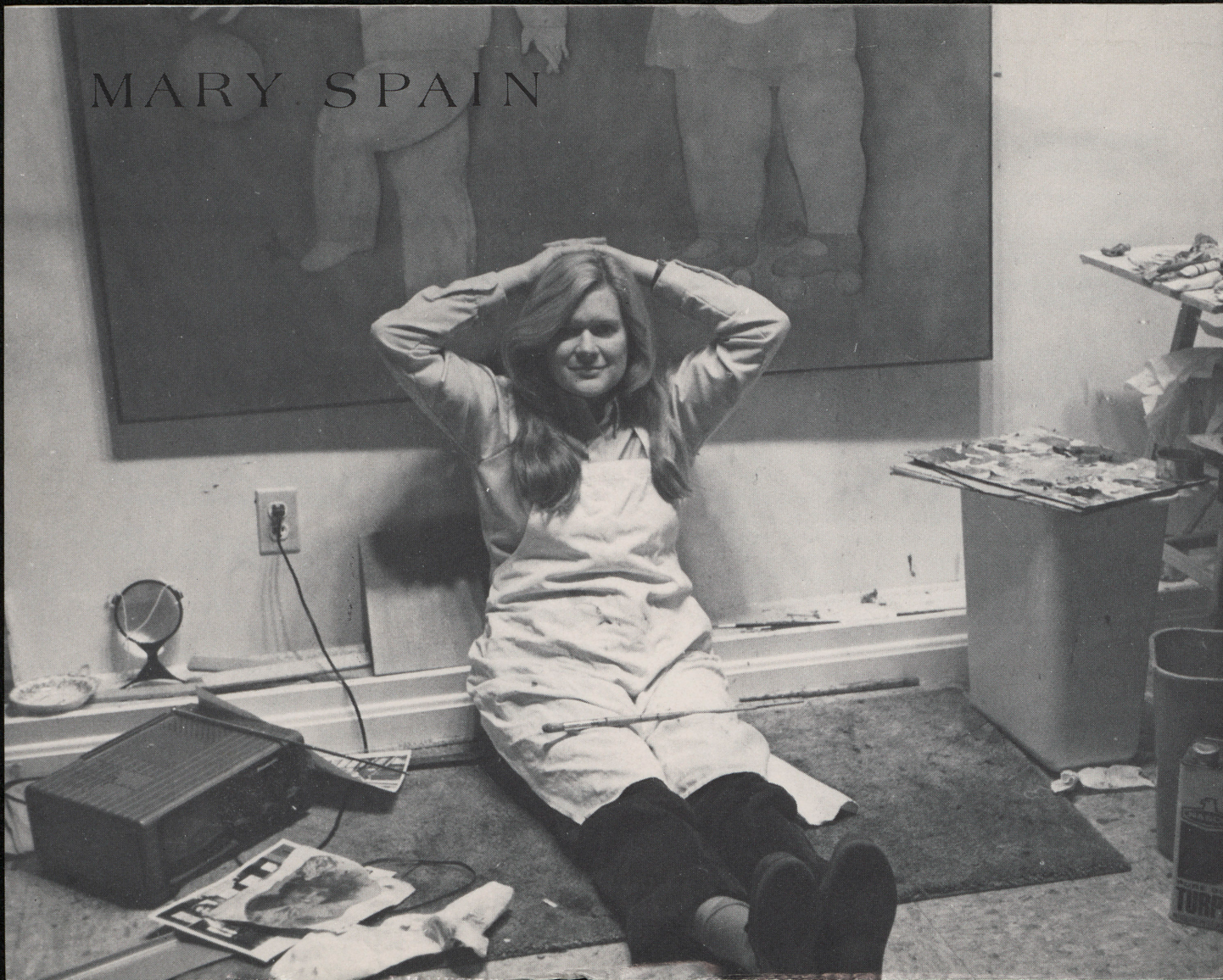
Juror's Mention May show
Purchase Prize Everson Museum
Purchase Award Baldwin Wallace College

PRESENT POSITION:

Painting and making sculpture (assembled from found wood) at
studio at home.

We would appreciate any information regarding subsequent awards, purchases, exhibitions and scholarships.
Thank you for your cooperation.

MARY SPAIN



Mary Spain was born in Raleigh, North Carolina, lived in West Palm Beach, Florida; where she attended the Norton School of Art and received a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in painting from Syracuse University. Presently her home and studio are in Solon, Ohio, a suburb of Cleveland.

"Mary Spain is the sorcerer's child, and her inheritance of magic is awesome. . . . Presenting her world carefully, and depicting it so brilliantly, Mary Spain offers challenge and refreshment, insight and amusement, a wacky kind of truth rarer than heart's ease."

David Parkinson, Jr.
Cleveland Magazine

"There are reasons for the things" which Mary Spain paints . . .

"Exactly where Mary Spain tumbled into her pictorial Looking Glass World is difficult to determine. She may have been born there . . ."

"A different plain of reality" is a phrase I once applied to the paintings of Mary Spain . . . "Surely it's the bizarre environments she creates, netherworlds in space where figures float and run with weightless ease, where multi-colored creatures become playful pets, and multiple moons dot the heavens . . ."

Roger Hurlburt
Fort Lauderdale News +
Sun-Sentinel

"Mary Spain's paintings are fantasies from life . . . a language of their own, a private vocabulary of symbols."

Helen Cullinan
Cleveland Plain Dealer

"Both creatures and humans are likely to sport party hats, tied neatly under their chins, and there is some evidence among Spain's other icons that she has a special affection for the props used by magicians. Reality is further de-emphasized in her treatment of space. How one reacts to all this depends upon one's dreams. Mary Spain's universe is either a deceptively nice place or a very scary one indeed."

Helen Kohen
Miami Herald

"Mary Spain is an artist hard to classify or compartmentalize. Some have compared her art to the French naive painter Henri Rousseau, but the equation is both convenient and inaccurate. Another viewer mentioned a relationship to surrealist paintings of Rene Magritte. Again the comparison (if need be) is just the opposite. Magritte invariably chooses to show us the back of his delusions, obscured by birds, bowler hats and the like. Mary Spain, on the other hand, shows on the front of these tableaux with color and humor. Oh, the masks are still there to be sure, but hopefully, Ms. Spain will never entirely tip her hand and endeavor to keep us curious and off guard until the end."

Roger Hurlburt
Fort Lauderdale News +
Sun Sentinel

"Technique and all formal aspects can take one so far, but it is always the intangible that lifts one to the height of ecstasy in the "real" works of art. It is the area of the surreal, that the paintings of Mary Spain belong. Symbolism, mysticism, coming out of a strange formality whereby no rules exist. This is the world of Mary Spain."

Matthew Carone
Carone Gallery

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

- 1983 Foster Harmon Gallery, Sarasota, Florida
- 1982 Carone Gallery, Fort Lauderdale, Florida
One person show
- 1982 Rodger LaPelle Gallery, Philadelphia,
Pennsylvania
One person show
- 1982 Jack Gallery, New York City
One person show
- 1981 Bonfoey on the Square Gallery, Cleveland,
Ohio
- 1980 Carone Gallery, Fort Lauderdale, Florida
One person show
- 1980 Gallery One, Ann Arbor, Michigan
One person show
- 1979 Canton Art Institute, Canton, Ohio
One person show
- 1978 Shayne Gallery, Montreal, Canada
- 1977 John Carroll University, Cleveland, Ohio

SELECTED GROUP SHOWS

Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, Ohio
Chautauqua National Exhibition of
American Art

Dayton Institute of Art, Dayton, Ohio
Butler Museum of Art, Youngstown, Ohio
Everson Museum, Syracuse, New York
Peter Flanigan Gallery, New York City,
New York
Stedman Art Gallery, Rutgers University,
Brunswick, N.Y.,
"Works On Paper" National Show

COLLECTIONS

Cleveland Museum of Art
Everson Museum, Syracuse, New York
Canton Art Institute
Fort Lauderdale Museum
Baldwin Wallace College
John Carroll University
Lake Erie College
Dr. and Mrs. Leonard Alperin
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Davis
Mr. and Mrs. David Dickenson
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Britton
Mr. and Mrs. John M. Freskos
Mr. and Mrs. Paul V. Ingalls
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sternberg
Dr. and Mrs. Robert Tannenbaum
Mrs. Frederic R. Colie
Ms. Claire Spitler
Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Valgenti, Jr.

1969

THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART
QUESTIONNAIRE

Dear Mary Spain Colie

We are trying to build a biographical record of Cleveland Artists for reference. May we enlist your assistance with the following data?

FULL NAME: Mrs. Frederic R. Colie Jr. MEDIA: Painting & Sculpting
or Mary Spain Colie

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: Raleigh, N.C.

ART TRAINING - Schools, Scholarships, etc:

Morton Gallery & school of art - West Palm Beach, Fla, Syracuse University
College of Fine Art - degree in Painting, Cleveland Institute of art,
EXHIBITIONS IN WHICH YOUR WORK HAS BEEN SHOWN:

Everson Museum - Syracuse N.Y., Chaglin Art Association Annual
Shows, Jewish Community Center, Cleveland.

COLLECTIONS WHICH NOW INCLUDE YOUR WORK:

Everson Museum Purchase prize 1956

AWARDS:

Juror Mentions at least 2 Jewish Community Center Shows -
several prizes at local Chaglin artists shows -

PRESENT POSITION:

- just stumbling along -

We would greatly appreciate it if you would inform us of subsequent awards, purchases, exhibitions and scholarships. Thankyou for your cooperation.

Sally Barnes
Assistant Curator of Paintings
May Snow Supervisor